

## Additional Funds Available for Schools Identified for Improvement Key Reminders

Schools identified for program improvement have an opportunity to apply for additional program improvement funds.

### 1. **Title I Law**

The *No Child Left Behind* law requires states to withhold up to 4% of their Title I funds off the top of their state allocation for program improvement. These funds are referred to as the 1003a funds.

### 2. **Amount Available**

For the 2015-2016 school year, schools identified for improvement can apply for up to \$40,000 in 1003a funding to help support improvement initiatives.

### 3. **Funding Period**

The funding period is September 1, 2015-June 30, 2016. As you complete your application, only include activities to be funded after September 1, 2015. All activities must conclude by June 30, 2016.

### 4. **Competitive**

The application process is very competitive this year. The higher the application scores, the more likely it is to be funded.

### 5. **Allowable Use of Funds**

- The program improvement funds can only be utilized in Title I buildings.
- The Title I targeted assistance schools identified for improvement are somewhat limited on how the funds can be utilized. The targeted assistance schools designation does not go away for program improvement. When a school plans to look at data or conduct high-quality professional development, all staff in the identified building can participate; however, any intervention-related funds can only be for identified at-risk students.
- Indirect costs (object code 900) are not allowable with additional program improvement funds.
- Additional program improvement funds must be tracked and requested separately from the district's other Title I funding.
- Budget revisions must be submitted if the district is planning to utilize funds in a different manner than what was described in the program improvement funding application. Approval must be granted prior to expending the funds.
- It is imperative the district's accounting ledger matches the approved budget on file in the Federal Title Program office. Districts should use expenditure code 101 (additional program improvement funds) to code the expenditures.

**6. Due Date**

- The due date for schools to apply for these additional program improvement funds is August 28, 2015.

**7. Submission**

- The Program Improvement application must be uploaded to the official Program Improvement submission site at <https://apps.nd.gov/itd/filetransfer/login.htm>.

**8. Program Improvement Application**

- The Title I Application for Additional Program Improvement funding (1003a) (SFN 60839), rubric, guidance, and additional funding information can be accessed on the Federal Title Programs website at [www.nd.gov/dpi/forms/](http://www.nd.gov/dpi/forms/).

**9. Questions**

- If you have questions regarding the additional program improvement funds, please contact:
  - Laurie Matzke – (701) 328-2284 – [lmatzke@nd.gov](mailto:lmatzke@nd.gov)
  - Shauna Greff – (701) 328-2954 – [sfgreff@nd.gov](mailto:sfgreff@nd.gov)